# The Project of Family Mediation



Child Welfare League Foundation
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## The Project of Family Mediation

- Background & History
- Operational Model
- Distinguishing Features
- Achievement & Prospects



#### Background

Children's best interests ignored & sacrificed

Lack of Support for Children



#### History

1998 Visit to Australia family courts

1999 Service for minors in single-parent families

 2003 "To end marriage peacefully and cooperate as parents" {

Invite HK experts as workshop trainers

### Therapeutic Family Mediation Model of Dr. Howard Irving

Best interests of children

Management of emotional and relational issues

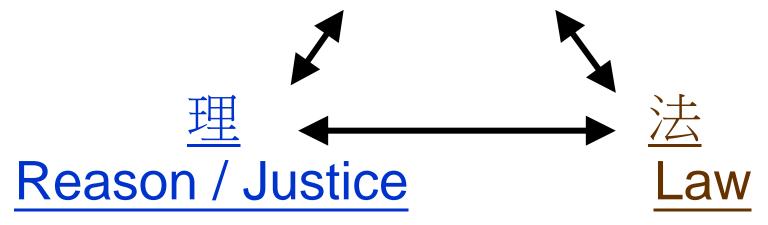


#### Empathizing Facilitating Reframing





Feeling / Relationship



#### Contributions of CWLF

- Contribution to incorporating family mediation into judicial system
- Families were uncomfortable about Court commenced conclination with seeking professional assistance.
- Divorce conciliation was prohibited in courts.
   New way of divorce: pre-ruling mediation in courts. (Legal force affirmed in 2009)

#### Strategies & Tools

- Seminars

   Parents learn how children are influenced,
   and benefits of family mediation
- Trial Period Parents put negotiation terms into practice
- Temporary Supervised Visitation

Children meet parent that does not live together

Guidebooks



#### I Want Happiness 我想要幸福

Divorcing family resources guidebook





#### I Want Happiness 我想要幸福

Chapters = Different stages of divorce

- Arguments before divorce
- Talk to children about divorce
- Life in single-parent family
- Visitation plan
- Life in step family

- Related resources
- Q&A



#### http://www.goodbye.org.tw/



#### I Have Two Families 我有兩個家

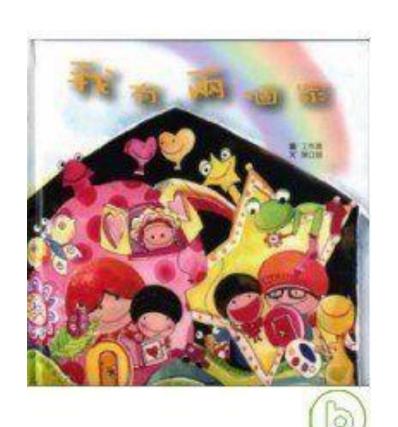


Illustration book

 Explain to children about divorce

Have open discussion

Guide for parents

#### Feedbacks from Clients

 Clients' realization of their responsibility as parents

Improvement of interaction in court

Non-hostile relationship



#### **Prospects**

- Develop divorce-related services
  - Parenting courses
  - Group activities

- Proactive mediation in at-risk families
  - Prevent aggravation of relationship
  - Make children's life stable

### Thank you!

